



EST. 1851

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PRESS RELEASE

DATE/TIME OF RELEASE: JULY 12, 2001, 1:30 P.M.
DATE/TIME OF OCCURRENCE: JULY 11, 2001, 4:15 P.M.
NATURE OF CALL: ARSONIST ARRESTED
LOCATION OF CALL: AUBURN
CASE NUMBER: SO 01-11735
SUSPECTS: JOHN BORMAN, 19 YEARS

SHERIFF EDWARD N. BONNER RELEASES THE FOLLOWING:

An Auburn man who helped extinguish a brush fire in North Auburn Thursday afternoon was later arrested for torching the fire that was heading directly toward a group of homes.

Consolidated Fire Protection District Battalion Chief Brad Albertazzi said weather conditions, along with the help of citizens, were the only reasons the fire did not continue on its dangerous path.

"Low temperatures, high humidity and no wind—these factors kept the fire from being a potential disaster," Albertazzi said. "The citizens also assisted by containing the fire with their shovels."

According to Albertazzi, John Borman, 19 was observed in the area where the fire started. When firefighters and sheriff's deputies arrived on scene near New Airport Road and the Golden Chain Mobile Home Park, Borman was shoveling dirt on the fire with Michael McHugh and his son Sean. The McHughes were visiting a family member in the mobile home park when the fire began. As they approached the flames, they encountered Borman fleeing the scene. Borman then turned around and began assisting the two, they said.

After an investigation by firefighters and deputies Borman was arrested by Placer County Sheriff's deputies and booked at the Placer County Jail on felony arson charges.

Albertazzi credited the citizen involvement and the cooperation between the Fire Department and the Sheriff's Department that led to the fire's quick containment and the suspect's arrest.

Placer Consolidated utilized three engines and a water tender to extinguish the hard-to-reach area. Flames were contained to 1/8 acre.

RELEASED BY LT. RICK ARMSTRONG

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